

OGC Has Reviewed

Joint Claims

Executive for A & M

26 April 1948

Assistant General Counsel

Report of Accident . [redacted]

STATINTL

1. The evidence in this case is of such a nature that it appears impossible to determine who was at fault. In view of the absence of proof that the accident was caused by the CIA driver, the negligence cannot be imputed to him.

2. In view of the above, [redacted] claim for reimbursement for the damages suffered to his car must be rejected.

STATOTHR

STATOTHR

3. The investigating officer has spoken both to the CIA driver, [redacted] and the driver of the private vehicle, [redacted] and finds that both of them stand on their respective stories. While [redacted] is supported by a witness who was a passenger in his car, [redacted] record of being one of the most careful drivers in CIA would give weight to his statement. From the facts, it appears impossible to reconcile the two stories as both of them are [redacted] plausible.

STATOTHR

4. It should noted that, although the accident occurred on 4 March 1948, no attempt was made to get a statement from [redacted] until 9 April, and the final report was not rendered until 19 April. This presents too great a gap in time for the proper interrogation of witnesses whose memory of details might well have grown hazy after a lapse of more than a month. The investigating officer, when queried on this matter, stated that it was approximately three weeks after the accident that he was given the problem to work on. This should be remedied.

25X1A

Walter L. Pforzheimer

Attachment:

File on Accident Case
of [redacted]

WLPforzheimer:blc